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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Senator Calatayud moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 1309 and 1310  
insert:

Section 19. Subsection (4) of section 1012.59, Florida  
Statutes, is added to read:

1012.59 Certification fees.—

(4) The State Board of Education shall waive initial  
subject area examination fees and certification fees for a  
teacher who holds a temporary or professional certificate in:

(a) Exceptional Student Education K-12 and who applies to



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add a subject coverage in Elementary Education K-6.

(b) Elementary Education K-6 and who applies to add a subject coverage in Exceptional Student Education K-12.

Section 20. No later than December 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Education shall make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on policy and funding changes to enhance the development and retention of exceptional student education instructional personnel. In developing the recommendations, the commissioner shall consider, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Alternative certification in place of the Elementary Education K-6 certificate as an add-on for personnel certified in exceptional student education.

(2) Financial incentives, including stipends for teacher education students, loan forgiveness, and instructional personnel salary adjustments and supplements.

(3) Strategies to encourage high school students to consider exceptional student education, including through preapprenticeships and dual enrollment.

(4) Funding under the Florida Education Finance Program to support school district exceptional student education personnel and programs.

(5) Innovative staffing, including teacher mentoring and supports for certified personnel responsibilities for case management and for instruction.

===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 109



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41 and insert:  
42       professional certificate; amending s. 1012.59, F.S.;  
43       providing examination and certification fee waivers  
44       for certain teachers; requiring the Commissioner of  
45       Education to make recommendations to the Governor and  
46       the Legislature regarding exceptional student  
47       education instructional personnel; requiring the  
48       commissioner to consider certain provisions; repealing  
49       s. 1012.72, F.S.,